



Community Christian Church Lincolnshire, Illinois



CCC Cantata Sunday

December 4, 2011

Please join us for a day of fellowship, fun and food as we celebrate this glorious season. On Sunday, December 4 we will begin with the 10 a.m. **Worship Service** (no 8 a.m. service), during which the choir will perform a **Christmas Cantata**. Afterwards, please stay to enjoy food and fellowship at our **Potluck Luncheon**, followed by the **Children's Christmas Pageant**. Please sign up for the Potluck Luncheon today indicating how many will be attending and what dish you will bring. The entrée and beverages will be provided. Some suggested items to bring are:

*Macaroni & Cheese
Pot Stickers
Chicken Nuggets
Steamed Vegetables
Green Salad*

*Potato Salad
Cut Up Fruit
Brownies
Pie
Chocolate Chip Cookies*

This is a day not to miss, full of CCC Christmas traditions. It will be a great day to catch up with your CCC family to spread some holiday cheer!



December 2011 Newsletter

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**REVIVE! &
ALIVE!**

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Cookie Sunday will be here
before you know it!
Please contact the church
office with addresses of the
college students you would
like to include.

Save this Date!!

January 28
Feed My Starving Children
See page 6 for more

Bryan's Bits

Ponder with me for a moment . . . Does your mood or attitude seem a bit down the past few weeks? Or is it just me? I don't necessarily feel less "cheery" than at other times, but I do miss family around the holidays, especially our children. Teresa and I have not had our children with us for many holidays over the past several years and we just have gotten used to it, we don't expect it anymore, thus we have changed. But, we have always had them for Christmas. This year our daughter and son-in-law will stay in Oregon. We as a family will not be together in one place for Christmas and I guess that changes things all over again. I see that a lot in life, expectations exist, but realities rarely match expectations. Sometimes my expectations are exceeded, many times they fall short. I wonder do we build up Christmas too much or do we just put too much into what it "should be" and not look at the reality of what it is - God, took on human form and came into our world and we celebrate that incarnation, the flesh and blood God who dwells among us! That is amazing is it not? I am pretty sure that what I want for Christmas, whether I get an iPad 2 or a new ? is not that important. If so and so brings the right potatoes or the table cloth matches the ? or the _____ is the right _____. All that is probably just expectation. The reality is Jesus came and lived among us. His birth was amazing. His life was transformative? And then He rose again and waits for us while He loves us and teaches us love. I don't know about you, but that changes Christmas for me, it takes the expectations of this month and this day to a level of fulfillment, satisfaction, joy.

But there are things that crowd this season of Christmas for me: War - man's brutality towards man; Economy - inequity, loss, need; Loved ones - grief over those who have died, loss of relationships, moving, loss of health; Expectations! I ponder many of the above items around this season. Sometimes I wonder if I am just strange to think of so much (probably am, but) yet I am reminded that this is a season of change. Christmas invades our lives and adds to our lives, and may well make it hectic as well. That is the reality of 2011 A.D. and it was the reality of 1 A.D. But, something that we don't usually remember of the Christmas story is that this season of change that invades us was planned, it was ripe for Christ's arrival. All of history came together for the Emmanuel to dwell among us! We are not always ready for Christmas to come. It seems early, it seems hectic, it seems too much, but it appears. That is the amazing thing about God, we may not be ready, but Christ is coming, He will arrive and we will behold Him. My challenge for you this season of Christ is to look, to see, to hear and to feel His presence in your lives. And maybe this season will bring a time of wonder that I pray will bring forth for you that child-like excitement of a church decorated and adorned with Christ and his people. I look forward to spending this Christmas with you. Blessings!

Joyfully,

Bryan

Community Christian Church
Office Hours 9 am - 1 pm
1970 Riverwoods Road
Lincolnshire, Illinois 60069
847 945-8824
Office@CCCLincolnshire.org
www.CCCLincolnshire.org



Please contact the ministers any time you feel it's necessary.

Bryan Elliott
Senior Minister
847 664-0577

Bryan@CCCLincolnshire.org

Jim Foubister
Student Pastor
224 241-2025
Jim@CCCLincolnshire.org



Upcoming Events

- 12/3 Men's Breakfast, 8am
 12/4 Congregational Meeting
 Cantata Sunday
 no 8am service
 12/9-10 Youth Lock-In, 5pm-9am
 12/10 Women's Coffee Break, 8am
 12/14 Soup Kitchen, 4pm
 12/24 Christmas Eve
 Candlelight Service, 7:30pm

Ongoing Events

Worship Services - Sundays, 8 & 10am
 Sunday School - Sundays, 9-9:30am
 Children's Time - Sundays, 9-9:30am
 Youth Group Meetings - Sundays, 11:30am
 Sermon in the Round - Tuesdays, 10am
 Soup Kitchen - 2nd Wednesday, 4pm
 Choir Practice - Wednesdays, 7pm
 Bible Study - Thursdays, 7pm
 resumes Jan. 12
 Men's Breakfast - 1st Saturday, 8am
 Women's Coffee Break - 2nd Saturday, 8am

Keep up with CCC events on the website.
 Go to the Upcoming Events page on our
 website: CCCLincolnshire.org



Contact the Church Office

1970 Riverwoods Road ~ Lincolnshire, IL 60069
 847.945.8824 ~ Office@CCCLincolnshire.org

Community Christian Church
 Lincolnshire, Illinois



Christmas at Community Christian Church

Sunday, December 4th 10:00 am

On the second Sunday of Advent, we will light the candle of LOVE.

We will receive the gift of music as the choir offers a *Christmas Cantata* worship experience. A potluck luncheon immediately follows and then the children will present the Christmas story. Watch and enjoy as the light of the world reaches humankind, as re-enacted by the youngest among us. (No 8am service)

Sunday, December 11th 8:00/10:00 am

On the third Sunday of Advent, we will light the pink candle of JOY.

Sunday, December 18th 8:00/10:00 am

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, we will light the candle of PEACE.

Saturday, December 24th 7:30 pm

The Christ candle will be lit during this Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion worship service, and we will share the light that has come into the world as a symbol of God's promise fulfilled.

Sunday, December 25th 9:00 am

(In lieu of 8 & 10am services)

On Christmas Day, this will be a special service of readings and hymns to celebrate a most holy holiday.

Sunday, January 1st 10:00 am

Combined Service to celebrate the New Year. (No 8am service)





The next monthly CCC men's breakfast will take place this Saturday, December 3, from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. in Thompson Hall. For this month's topic, we will examine the subject of stress. What are the sources of stress in your life? Do the holidays increase your stress level? Have you found effective ways of reducing stress? Is there any guidance we can find in scripture?

Please reply to the church office if you'll be able to join on Saturday. Additionally, please bring your ideas for future discussion topics.



Poinsettias

*A very special tradition at CCC
is to adorn the sanctuary with Poinsettias.
You can help by purchasing the plants
in honor of friends/family,
in memory of someone,
or simply to beautify the sanctuary.*

Each plant costs \$10 and you may take your plants home after the 7:30pm. service on Christmas Eve. Order forms are available at church, or the form can be printed from here:

http://www.archive.org/download/CCC_Poinsettia_2011/PoinsettiaOrderForm.pdf

Relax ♥ Rejuvenate ♥ Recaffeinate



Don't miss the November Women's coffee on Saturday, November 12th! We start at 8am at Einstein's on Milwaukee. It is free flowing - we come and go when we need to. This is such a great time to sit down, relax, and get to know one another better. Mark your calendars now before things get too busy. Come share some coffee and some laughs to start your day off right!

We are calling all women who would like to help cater the Men's February breakfast meeting. This will be a great way to support the work of the men in the church. Put on your chef's hats and join us Saturday, February 4th.

In May, the women will be hosting a "*Mothers and Others*" event. The planning is beginning, and Susan is looking for any and all ideas. This will be an opportunity to honor and support the mother in all of us. Whether you have your own children or are a mother figure to a family member or friend, you are welcome. What we do and what we give to one another is so sacred. Let's honor that together in May.

Lastly, there will be a summer day retreat for the women in 2012. Susan is looking for contributors to make this day a worthwhile investment of time and energy for us all.

If you are interested in helping with any of these events, please contact the church office.



"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." ~ Novelist Cynthia Ozick



On Saturday, November 26th, the 14 CCCers listed below helped get our church ready for Christmas. They hung the new Advent banners in the Sanctuary, decorated and hung wreaths, put up and trimmed the Christmas tree and erected the outdoor nativity scene. A special thanks to our Boy Scout Troop 78 for providing the big wreath over the grand piano and the two wreaths on the front doors of Lanier Hall. We and the community will enjoy the results for the next six weeks. Thank you to:

Bryan	Steve
Jim and Judy	Kevin
Charlie	Bev
Pip	Kay
Lynn	John
Ginny and Perry	Xiaomao



Property Committee



The CCC Property committee is a small but mighty bunch of people and they could use your help. If you would like to join this active group, please contact the church office.

Service of Remembrance

Our second annual Service of Remembrance was held on November 6th to remember and honor loved ones, family and friends, who are now in enfolded in God's loving arms.

As each name was read aloud a candle was lit. Over 220 names were lifted up.

Our Stephen Ministers and Elders read scripture and poetry. Sharon Service sang "On Eagles Wings", Soyeon Park played a Chopin Nocturne, and classical guitarist Ignacio Barcia played "Recuerdos de la Alhambra". Our Senior Minister Bryan Elliott spoke about loss. Everyone who participated helped create a moving and meaningful experience for all in attendance.

An all-church pot luck followed the service. There was an abundance of delicious food including lots of yummy desserts in the grand CCC tradition.



Please join us next year on Sunday November 4, 2012, when we will again honor those we have loved and lost.

Thanks to all who helped organize and who participated in the Service of remembrance. We particularly want to thank:

The Stephen Ministers and Elders who sponsored the service and potluck, and worked hard to make the event meaningful for all who attended.

Soyeon Park who played so beautifully.

Pip Gledhill and Judy Mankus who created posters, programs, signups, and badges.

Pip Gledhill who purchased and set up the candle lighting trays.

Ann Hajicek, Andrea Fisher, Kendra Ro, Susan Short and Lauren Wismer.

Ping Wu, and Pip Gledhill - our readers and candle lighters.

Chris Ramaekers for his assistance with the music.

Sharon Service who blessed us with her lovely voice.

Bryan Elliott who touched our hearts with his words.

Gill Hogan, Ping Wu, Perry Grace, Alice Reich, Kendra Ro, Ann Hajicek, and Lauren Wismer who helped setup for the potluck.

All you wonderful people who stayed after to cleanup.

CCC Youth Page

ALIVE!

5TH THROUGH 8TH GRADERS

REVIVE!

9TH THROUGH 12TH GRADERS



*Blessed are those who are generous,
because they feed the poor.*
~ Proverbs 22:9

CCC Youth and their families are invited to join a food-packing event at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit Christian organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and they ship the meals to nearly 70 countries around the world.

We'll meet at church at 12:30pm and caravan to Schaumburg and stop for dinner on the way home, arriving back at church by 6 or 6:30pm. Event details are as follows:

To join the group, contact the church office, or go to:
<http://volunteer.fmsc.org/Register/Group/JoinGroup.aspx?gid=148287>

Find out more about the organization at FMSC.org

If you have questions about the food packing event, please contact the church office at Office@CCCLincolnshire.org or 847 945-8824.



CCC YOUTH ADVENTURES

SOME GREAT EVENTS FOR CCC YOUTH & FRIENDS HAVE BEEN PLANNED AND WE REALLY WANT YOU TO BE THERE!

DEC 4	AFTER CHURCH	YOUTH GROUP
DEC 9-10	FRI 5PM - SAT 9AM	LOCK-IN
DEC 11	AFTER CHURCH	YOUTH GROUP
DEC 14	4-7:30PM	SOUP KITCHEN
DEC 18	11:30AM	CHRISTMAS PARTY



Last Year at FMSC



"Tis the Season"...

...or "Is it Winter Break yet?" Thanksgiving comes and goes so quickly and it's such a tease because we know that the two-week break is coming at Christmas time. Do you have travel plans? We'd like to know so we can think about you in Mexico or Aruba or Colorado or Switzerland!! (We will also pray for your safe travels.) If you're staying home we'd like to hear from you also. We're planning a super festive Christmas Party with great games and maybe some yummy treats, but that all depends on what you're bringing - so let us know, okay? Go to [Facebook](#) or [Email the church office](#)-put "Christmas Plans" in the subject box...can't wait to hear from you!

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



"Ari"

Sunday School at CCC

This fun group of Preschoolers through 6th graders really enjoy learning about the Bible through the rotation style lessons. One Bible story is taught each month through three different hands-on activities each week and a "Culmination Sunday" which reflects on the story after each age group has completed the month's rotation classes. Linda Marder teaches them songs and music, usually incorporating the month's story.

The stories are well-known and a true pleasure to teach, and very rewarding! You can be a big help to CCC kids by volunteering to teach. Please contact the church office.



2011-2012 Rotation Lesson Plans

December	The Incarnation
January	Feeding the 5000
February	The Lord's Prayer
March	The Last Supper
April	The Walk to Emmaus
May	Paul on the Road

Children's Offering



Children Helping Children has been the theme for our Sunday School offering for many years at CCC. We collect offering every Sunday immediately following our Children's Time, in a basket by the communion table. These funds are used to help children locally and around the world. Each year we talk to the children about what possible organizations we can help and have good discussions about which ones we will choose to support. We have been able to buy soccer balls for children in Kenya, helped a wish come true for a critically ill child through Make-a-Wish, buy back packs and school supplies for children in local shelters and so much more. Presently we are sponsoring Irene Nakato, a young girl from Uganda, who we have been providing the funds for her schooling for going on three years now. We report back to the children by reading thank you letters, and explaining to them where and how the money is spent. What a blessing the lessons of giving can be for our children, please encourage them to give a small offering each Sunday they attend church.



Watch Sarah perform in her high school's Madrigal Dinner. A wonderful evening out for the whole family!

For more information, go to:

[http://www.rlas-116.org/panthers/Documents/Madrigal%20dinner%202011.p
df](http://www.rlas-116.org/panthers/Documents/Madrigal%20dinner%202011.pdf)



Happy Birthday!

Barb	4
Andrea	5
Bob	6
Dave	7
Dale	8
Devon	11
Anna	15
Diane	16
Emily	16
Bryan	18
JJ	20
Phyllis	21
Joe	22
Margaret	24
Joey	25
Kerry	27
Kory	28
Daniel	29
Dick	29
Emma	30
Richard	30
Roger	30
Jack	30
Nina	31
Cameron	31



Happy Anniversary!

Saford and Kathy	1
Brian and Lauren	3

Thank You!!

Thank you to those who served at the Soup Kitchen in November when 288 meals were served.

Jim
Eric
Pip
Jane
Ping
Borchueh
Nicole

Thank you to those who served treats at Fellowship Hour in November.

Thank you to Lynn and Bryan for bringing Rocky and Trooper for pony rides at Trick or Trunk.

Thank you to Jim, Pip, Ashley, Avery, Callum and Ruby for going to Summit in Carlinville, Illinois.

Thank you to Perry and Jim for replacing a toilet for the Montessori School

Thank you to Jim and Steve Gripper for repairing the backup generator

Thanks again to Steve for replacing the exit light batteries.

Thank you to Teresa for starting the Adult Sunday School on Sundays at 9am.

Thank you for being so generous and helping with the Thanksgiving Food Boxes and the Angel Tree.

Thank you to Andrea for coordinating the Service of Remembrance. For more, see page 5.

Thank you to our Advent acolytes.

Thank you to our Advent readers.

Long Term Prayer List

When a name is put on the long term prayer list, it will remain there for six months. At the end of that time period, it will be removed. If you feel a name needs to stay on the list beyond six months, simply resubmit the name when it is removed and it will gladly be added. You may also submit a name to the long term prayer list by writing the name on a cross and posting it on the prayer board in Friendship Hall.

Amy's family	Lesli & Bunny
Ana	Lin
Ann	Linda
Bill	Lisa and family
Bodil	Maura and Family
Brent	Mike and family
Caroline & family	Nan and family
Chris	National & World Leaders
Cuptrice	Nicole and MacKenzie
Danielle & Danny	Nikki
Dawn	Noel & Sherri
Dianica	Our Stephen Ministry
Family and Friends of Naomi	Our Troops
George	Patrick
Gretchen's family	Rich
Helen's family	Rich
Henry	Robert
Howard and Rev. Eleanore	Robin
Jason's family	Sheldon's family
Jennifer and family	Sherry
Jim & family	Stephanie
Jim & family	Woody
Jim	
Jim's family	
Jim and family	
Ken & family	
Kyle	

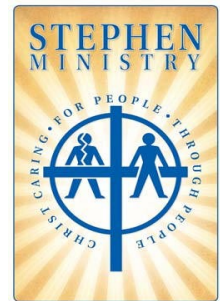
Short Term Prayer List

Names added to the short term prayer list will appear for three consecutive weeks, after which, if there is need to continue, they will be moved to the long term prayer list.

Adeline & Joe Gorski	Matthew Brown
Dave & Sue	Meagan
Don	Nancy Halversen
Kara Herrod	Pat Killingsworth
Kay Gastel	Robin
Kris Mileman	Sean Sortino
Mack	Sheila & Jimmy Bracken

Happiest Time of the Year...

...NOT



Ever since early childhood we have been told that Christmas time is the very best time of the year. In reality, it is often overwhelmingly sad. We get so caught up in the "busy-ness" of the holidays that we lose the real reason.

If you need help refocusing on the birth of the Christ Child and the love and joy of that event you may well find time with a Stephen Minister beneficial. Call the church office to begin.



The General Operating Budget data for October 2011 is as follows:

October income	\$44,421
October expenses	\$29,260
YTD income	\$231,548
YTD expenses	\$212,625

■ CCC Events ■ CCC Youth Groups
■ Troop 78 ■ Committee Meetings

DECEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 ■ 8a Men's Breakfast
4 ■ 9a Adult SS ■ 10a Cantata ■ 11:15a Congregational Meeting	5 ■ 6:30p Elder+SM Party ■ 7p Troop 78	6 ■ 10a Sermon in the Round ■ 7p Commissioners	7 ■ 7p Choir Practice	8	9 ■ 5p Lock-In	10 ■ 8a Women's Coffee Break ■ 9a Lock-In ■ Pick up
11 ■ 8a Worship ■ 9a Adult SS ■ 10a Worship ■ 11:30a Youth Group	12 ■ 7p Troop 78	13 ■ 10a Sermon in the Round ■ 7p Roundtable ■ 7p Pack 78??	14 ■ 4p Soup Kitchen ■ 7p Choir Practice	15	16	17 ■ Winter Break
18 ■ Winter Break ■ 8a Worship ■ 9a Adult SS ■ 10a Worship ■ 11:30a Youth Group Party	19 ■ Winter Break ■ 7p Troop 78	20 ■ Winter Break ■ 10a Sermon in the Round	21 ■ Winter Break ■ 7p Choir Practice	22 ■ Winter Break ■ 6p Court of Honor	23 ■ Winter Break	24 ■ Winter Break ■ 7:30p Candlelight Communion Service
25 ■ Winter Break Christmas ■ 9a Combined Worship	26 ■ Winter Break ■ 7p Troop 78	27 ■ Winter Break ■ 10a Sermon in the Round	28 ■ Winter Break ■ 7p Choir Practice	29 ■ Winter Break	30 ■ Winter Break	31 ■ Winter Break ■ New Year's Eve